

August 31

2 Esdras 9:23-29 (1611 KJV)

**Where No Man
Has Gone Before**



23 Nevertheless, if thou wilt cease yet seven days more, (but thou shalt not fast in them,

24 But go into **a field of flowers**, where no house is builded, and eat **only the flowers of the field**; taste no flesh, drink no wine, but **eat flowers only**;))

25 And pray unto the Highest continually, then will I come and talk with

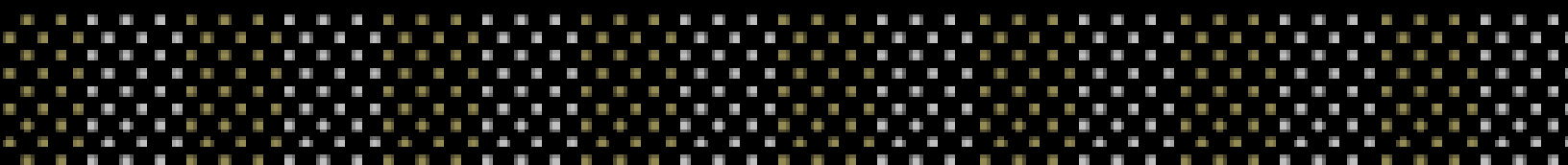
thee.

26 So I went my way
into the field which is
called Ardath, like as he
commanded me; and there
I sat among the flowers,
and did eat of the herbs
of the field, and the meat
of the same satisfied me.

27 After seven days I sat
upon the grass, and my
heart was vexed within me,
like as before:

28 And I opened my mouth,
and began to talk before

the most High, and said,
29 O Lord, thou that
shewest thyself unto us,
thou wast shewed unto
our fathers in the
wilderness, in a place
where no man treadeth,
in a barren place, when
they came out of Egypt.



As a little background information, Esdras was seeking depth. He wanted answers and knew it was perfectly acceptable to ask the deep questions to get the deep answers. He also knew who to ask.

Esdras had been having powerful

spiritual experiences
as a result of this
godly journey. In
this passage, he
was told to set aside
seven more days
beyond the days he
had already
consecrated. This
time, however, there
would be no fasting.
Instead he was to eat
the “flowers” from a

particular type
of field.

He was specifically
instructed to go into
a field of flowers where
no one was there or
had ever lived there.

He was to eat only
the flowers of the
field and not to eat
“flesh”, such as
animals and not

to drink wine.

He was to only eat flowers. Esdras was told to pray nonstop to the Highest and he would later receive a special talk.

Once Esdras completed the guidelines, he sat on the grass and began speaking in the

presence of the most
High. It seemed to be
a very spiritual type
of communication as
indicated by what
was said.

Esdras addressed
Great Spirit AS and
WITH the very
situation God had
placed Esdras in

during the immediate
previous seven days.

He called God,
in essence, the
Revealing Guide who
leads where no one
has gone before.

Esdras addressed God
AS the One who made
and makes himself
known to his people.

Esdras also addressed
God WITH the
acknowledgement
that God had led him
as he had led
the Israelites out of
Egypt (the
Exodus)—into
untouched territory.

Esdras was saying:
Lord, you are the
One who shows

yourself to us now
as you showed
yourself to our
ancestors in the
wilderness.

You lead to places
where no one has
ever been.

One interesting
consideration about
the *place* the
Hebrews were led

and the *place* Esdras
was led is found in
two Bible translations.
While the 1611 says
God revealed himself
“in a place where
no man TREADETH”,
the Great Bible version
uses the word
DWELLETH.

On the surface,
this difference may

seem significant or even contradictory. However, both word choices can be helpful in providing understanding.

The 1611's "treadeth" means in a place where no one *travels* or *walks*.

The Great Bible's "dwelleth" means in

a place where no
one *lives or resides*.

For both Esdras,
while on his
spiritual journey,
and the Hebrews of the
great Exodus, no one
was presently in that
place and no one had
ever been in that *place*.
In other words, there
was no one there at

that time to greet
them, guide them,
comfort them, or
house and feed them.
There were no preset
walkways or worn
paths to help
with directions.

In the parallel
expeditions, Esdras,
as well as those of
the Exodus, had to
completely depend

on God.

That's the ultimate
message.

In both situations,
God revealed
something about his
character. He showed
that he is not so
interested in our
comforts and quick
answers or

easy resolutions
to issues.

When God guides in
extreme cases, such
direction may demand
100% reliance on him.

The fact is that
the faithful must be
willing to operate
within the total
authority of God.
When we want to

go spiritually deep,
as with Esdras, or
when we want to be
free of enslavement,
even physically,
as with the Israelites,
we may have to let
go of the old, yet
familiar, in
exchange
for the new,
yet altogether

unfamiliar and
enter unchartered
territory.

As we sincerely
seek and follow
the most High,
we, too, may
be led to
untouched grounds—
where no man, no
person, has
gone before.

ONE *A* DAY

SCRIPTURE

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